

Haggerty, Katie

From: Diane Samples <dianeandmark@charter.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:57 PM
To: JudTestimony
Subject: SB650, HB 6848, HB6962

This testimony is in regard to:

(SB650, An Act Concerning Temporary Restraining Orders and HB 6848, An Act Protecting Victims of Domestic Violence) are on the agenda as well as the Safe Storage bill (HB6962, An Act Concerning Firearm Safety).

As a citizen of Connecticut and someone who is concerned about gun violence, I am in support of these bills. In no way do these bills encroach on any law-abiding person's right to own a firearm. Yes, it may potentially inconvenience a gun owner or prospective gun owner, but that is a small price to pay to save even one life.

Both of these issues have appalling statistics associated with them. The numbers of women killed by their current or former domestic partner or significant other is unfathomable to me. There should be no special terms or special laws that decrease the seriousness in cases such as these. Violence that occurs in a home in no way should be perceived as any less than the violence that occurs anywhere else in our society. If anything, the obvious emotional volatility that is associated with violence upon a woman by a man that she knows, should make this sort of potential scenario taken even more seriously and have even stricter laws applied.

As for safe storage, it seems obvious that every gun owner should be 100% responsible for their firearm at all times unless they can prove it was stolen. As a gun owner, YOU should be 100% responsible for whatever events or crimes occur as a result of another person obtaining YOUR gun. This includes what this country continues to refer to as "accidental shootings" but are really "negligent gun owner shootings." Once this country steps up and creates laws that hold gun owners fully accountable for what happens to and with their firearms, these types of "accidents" will decrease substantially. Once gun owners realize they will spend time in JAIL if their weapon was not secured and a person, particularly a child, hurts or kills themselves or another person, this issue will be taken more seriously and lives will be saved. These laws are a step in the right direction.

Sincerely,
Diane Samples
New Fairfield